

Senate Appeals Committee Report to Senate

At its meeting of November 23, 2023

FOR INFORMATION

1. Annual Student Appeals Statistics, 2022-23

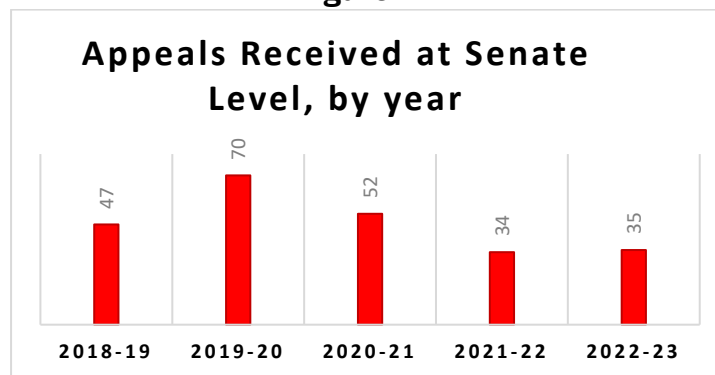
In this annual report, the Senate Appeals Committee (SAC) describes its activities for the past year and presents data on Senate and Faculty-level cases.

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023, SAC received 35 new files. Nine (9) files were not completed by June 30; an additional five (5) files initiated in 2020-21 were completed. Figure 1 presents the number of cases from the last five years. There were no requests for SAC to approve, on behalf Senate, the rescission of a degree as penalty for breach of academic honesty.

The total number of appeals remained steady with the previous year, likely due to the ongoing modifications to regulations that resulted from the declaration of a disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The percentage of appeals granted in 2022-23 was also relatively consistent with the percentage granted in 2021-22. While this represents a slight decrease from previous years, it was previously hypothesized that this may be due to an increased number of cases for which there were clear grounds being resolved either at or before the petitions level due to these modifications.

Figures 1 and 2, below, and Tables 1-3 give the data for SAC appeals.

Figure 1



**Table 1
OUTCOME OF CONSIDERATION BY SAC, BY YEAR AND
DECISION**

	2018-19		2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23	
	Grant	Dismiss	Grant	Dismiss	Grant	Dismiss	Grant	Dismiss	Grant	Dismiss
Dismissal without a hearing	2	22	10	41	11	36	5	20	5	26
Appeal hearings	13	9	20	7	22	4	4	6	5	3
Reconsideration	2	9	1	15	2	12	0	4	0	5
Total	17	40	31	63	35	52	9	30	10	34

**Figure 2
Number of Appeals Granted and Denied, by Year**

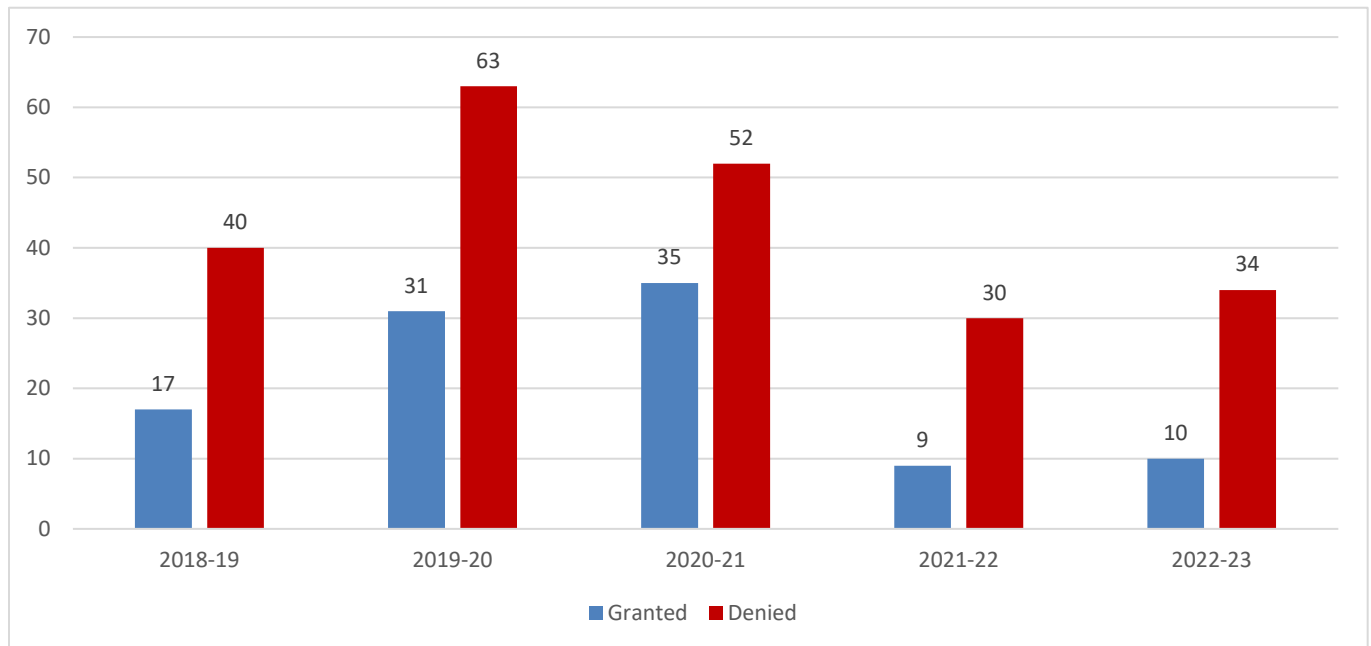


Table 2
SAC APPEALS BY TYPE, YEAR AND NUMBER¹

Type of SAC Appeal	2018-19 46 Appeals	2019-20 70 Appeals	2020-21 52 Appeals	2021-22 34 Appeals	2022-23 35 Appeals
Course drop without receiving a grade	21	28	23	11	13
Reconsideration of SAC Decision	11	16	21	4	5
Deferment	4	3	1	0	2
Academic Honesty	8	10	11	11	11
Waiver of Required Withdrawal / Debarment	2	15	5	4	3
Grade Reappraisal	8	9	4	4	4
Late Enrolment	0	1	0	1	0
Other	0	0	5	1	1
Waiver of Degree/ Program requirement	2	4	3	0	1
Total	54	86	73	36	40

Table 3
SAC APPEALS BY FACULTY OF ORIGIN

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
AMPD	1	0	0	0	1
Education	0	0	0	0	0
FEUC	0	0	0	0	1
Glendon	4	5	4	0	1
Graduate Studies	2	6	0	2	2
Health	8	13	15	7	8
Lassonde	6	7	3	5	3
LA&PS	12	15	13	4	11
Osgoode	4	9	5	4	1
Schulich	1	3	1	2	1
Science	8	12	11	10	6

¹ Totals exceed individual cases due to reconsiderations and/or multiple appeals within one case.

2. Annual Reporting of Faculty-level Petition and Appeals Statistics, 2022-23

SAC is continuing its efforts to standardize reporting across the University. The data are for petitions initiated from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The data in Table 4 provide the big picture but are not entirely comparable across Faculties.

At the bottom of the table, the total number of appeals for each Faculty and the percentage of petitions that were appealed at the Faculty level is provided. The overall percentage of cases appealed is 3.32%, which is slightly higher than last year (2.54%). Over the past five years, the average has ranged between 2.54 and 5.7%.

The total number of petitions (5933) is also slightly higher than last year (5561). Overall, most petitions continued to be granted, particularly in the smaller Faculties such as Education and Environmental and Urban Change that have few petitions overall.

Table 4

FACULTY-LEVEL PETITIONS BY TYPE 2022-23

		AMPD	ED	EUC	GL	GS	HH	LA&PS	LSE	OSG	SSB	SC	TOTAL
Petition Type	Reason												
Course Add	Enrol In Course(s) After The Faculty Deadline	1			7	6	3	1	4				22
Course Drop	Drop Course(s) After Faculty Deadline	99	8	56	16	115	230	792	49		18	60	1443
	Granted W on transcript	4	14		43		331	89	24		1		506
Credit								4			2	1	7
Departmental/ Program Waiver	Advanced Standing: Course Substitute					8					2		10
	Advanced Standing: Course Waiver					7							7
	Advanced Standing: Course Transfer					70							70
	Course Substitution for Major or Minor Req. (s)		3	12	1							24	40
	Other		1	2	1	9							13
	Waiver Of Degree Credit Exclusion Legislation			2									2
	Waiver with replacement	2		48		10							60
	Take courses out of sequence		6			1							7
	Promotion without satisfying year requirements - Schulich												0
	Reduced course load - Schulich												0
Exemptions	Degree Exemption(s)										1		1
Extension	Deferred Standing, extension of deferred standing	4	2	1	6	5	60	185	93		3	75	434
	Course extension					46							46
	Program extension					416							416
Grade Reappraisal	Grade Reappraisal		2	1		3			2	26	6		40
Leave	Leave of Absence					414					119		533
	LOA Medical/compassionate					85							85
	LOA No course available					318							318
	Maternity leave					134							134
	Strike-related - FGS												0
Letter of Permission	Credit For Course(s) Taken Elsewhere Without LOP	1				2	1	1				18	23

		AMPD	ED	EUC	GL	GS	HH	LA&PS	LSE	OSG	SSB	SC	TOTAL
Other	Other					15			2		25	19	61
Overload	Course Overload	5		5		4	53	47	35		8		157
Readmission													0
Relief against failure	Osgoode only												0
Repeat	Repeat Failed Course		16				6		14				36
	Repeat Passed Course		1				13		2				16
Status	Change degree stream	1	25			38							64
	Change to full-time					45							45
	Change to part-time					82					1		83
	Reinstatement					268							268
	Withdrawal		1			23							24
	Study at a location other than York												0
Stop-out	Education only		9										9
Waiver	Graduate Without Min. Req'd G.P.A.		1				1						2
	Request For Waiver Of Req. Withdrawal*	26					54	10	52		40	22	204
	Request For Waiver Of Req. Debarment	4			2	9	15		13			4	47
	Upgrade G.P.A. In Attempt To Graduate						13		3			1	17
	Waiver Of Degree Credit Exclusion Legislation												0
	Waiver Of General Education Requirement	10					7		35				52
	Waiver Of Honours Standing Regulations	58		2			74	4	43				181
	Waiver Of In-Faculty Requirement	13					4		25				42
	Waiver Of Major Requirement(s)	31				3	1		44				79
	Waiver Of Upper Level Course Requirements	1					1						2
	Other	8		2			4	119	12	182			327
Total		268	89	131	76	2136	871	1252	452	208	226	224	5933
Appeals		1	0	1	3	5	74	49	24	NA	7	33	197
Percentage of decisions appealed		0.37%	0.00%	0.76%	3.95%	0.23%	8.50%	3.91%	5.31%	NA	3.10%	14.73%	3.32%
*LA&PS required withdrawal and debarment numbers combined													

3. Annual Faculty-Level Academic Honesty Statistics, 2022-23

SAC includes in its annual report statistics on Faculty considerations of charges of breaches of academic honesty. For 2022-23, there were 1,070 cases of breaches of academic honesty, a decrease from 1,659 in 2021-22. See Table 5 for details.

As previously reported, the increase in cases in 2020-21 can likely be traced back to the COVID-19 pandemic, with many Faculties reporting a large increase in online cheating and group cases. The decrease in the number of cases over the past two years reflects a return to the pre-pandemic numbers as students returned to in-person learning in the classroom. Moreover, a number of Faculties and units have undertaken initiatives in the last few years to raise awareness and educate students about academic honesty matters.

Table 5
ACADEMIC HONESTY CASES BY FACULTY
2018-19 TO 2022-23

Faculty	2018-19 N=817	2019-20 N=978	2020-21 N=2,178	2021-22 N=1,659	2022-23 N=1,070
AMPD	24	40	25	29	29
Education	9	8	6	6	11
FEUC	8	17	10	6	16
Glendon	26	27	23	23	15
Graduate Studies	30	10	22	9	6
Health	49	78	248	139	136
Lassonde	209	239	406	489	238
LA&PS	357	390	620	529	361
Osgoode	3	11	10	3	5
Schulich	35	70	112	108	82
Science	67	88	696	318	171

NOTE: The numbers above refer to charges laid. Where the conclusion of an exploratory meeting was that there was no breach and no formal charge was laid, the case is not recorded.

4. Policies and Procedures

Draft Academic Conduct Policy and Procedures

Following efforts over the course of a number of years, a draft Academic Conduct Policy and Procedures has been developed to supersede the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. The Senate Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP) recently completed its review of the document and has requested comments/ concurrence from SAC in anticipation that the draft Policy will be brought to Senate in early 2024.

Interim Extension of the Waiver of Required Attending Physician's Statements

A request to extend the waiver of required Attending Physician Statements to support requests for deferred standing, petitions and appeals for an additional six months, from December 31, 2023 to June 30, 2024 is being considered by Senate at this meeting. SAC is in support of this extension, which will allow ASCP to finalize for Senate approval a Senate-level policy on *Attending Physician Statements* for the University's petitions, appeals and deferred standing processes.

5. Hail and Farewell

The members of the Senate Appeals Committee and the support staff of the Secretariat would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to our departing members for their work on and commitment to the Senate Appeals Committee: Professors Bridget Cauthery, Skye Fitzpatrick, Andrew McEachern, and Gabrielle Moser and students Yashna Manek, Disha Mittal and Shawn Yuan.

A warm welcome is extended to new members: Professors Cheryl Cowdy, May Haidar, Sirvan Karimi, and Ron Ophir.

Jessica Sutherland, Chair, 2023-24